(JRY) so that misutilisation of funds does not take place. Under the JRY Manual, the resources under JRY released to the village panchayat are kept in an exclusive and separate savings bank or post office account which can be operated jointly by the Sarpanch and another person nominated by Panchayat. Every drawal from the bank is required to be authorised in the meeting of the village panchayat. The accounts of the DRDAs/ ZPs/GPs are also subjected to regular audit. Meetings of the village panchayats are to be held every month on a fixed date and time in which every member of the village community can raise any issue regarding implementation of JRY. Where the village Panchayats are not in existence, their share of funds will have to be passed on to the concerned Block Samiti which will be responsible for implementing the JRY in those panchayats through administrators appointed for the purpose.

Since JRY is implemented by about 2.20 lakhs village panchayats all over the country, the State Governments have drawn up a programme of inspection of these works by senior officers from the State/District/Block level who are required to inspect the works in the villages/district at a frequency decided by the State Level Coordination Committee. This is supplemented by the visits of Central Government officers from the Ministry of Rural Development who have been assigned specific areas for such visits and follow up. Monthly and quarterly reports are prescribed for a regular flow of information from the districts to the State and the Central level so that both the State and Central Governments can monitor the performance of the programme periodically.

With the enactment of Constitution Seventy Third Amendment Act, 1992, the establishment and durations of State Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) have been ensured. Active PRIs, which are accountable to the people, will act as an effective check against any mis-use of JRY funds.

Sponsored scheme for rural housing

3291. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times dated 14-7-93 captioned "Government envisaging sponsored scheme on rural housing" ;

(b) if so, what are the details of this new initiative for providing housing facilities in rural areas ;

(c) whether the plan would be grounded shortly ; and

(d) the details of time frame for starting this housing project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme called Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), which is a sub-scheme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), for providing houses, free of cost to SCs/STs and freed bonded labourers below poverty line in rural areas. 6% of the resources of JRY is earmarked for IAY.

In addition to this a proposal is under consideration in this Ministry for a centrally sponsored rural housing programme in which beneficiaries will be given loans from Banks and other lending institutions and the interest on the loan will be subsidized by the Government of India. The details of the scheme are being worked out and will be finalised shortly.

The programme is likely to start during the current financial year.

Project proposal for construction of houses for Chenchus (Tribal group in A.P.)

3292. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a project proposal for construction of 7,000 houses for Chenchus which are a primitive tribal group in Andhra Pradesh at a cost of Rs. 10.15 crores ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (c) A proposal for construction of 7,000 houses over a period of five years, at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.15 crores for Chenchus, a tribal group in Andhra Pradesh was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent another proposal for construction of 45,125 houses under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) for which a central assistance of Rs. 29.47 crores was sought. Considering both the proposals, a sum of Rs. 30.12 crores was released to the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 31-3-1993 as additional assistance